



Testimony submitted to the Appropriations Committee on H.B. 6439, An Act Concerning the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June Thirtieth, 2023, and Making Appropriations Therefor

March 9, 2021

Co-Chairs Senator Osten and Representative Walker, Ranking Members Senator Miner and Representative France, and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee:

My name is Sonia Moncreiffe. I am a proud Bridgeport resident who has had children in the Bridgeport school system and currently have a grandchild in this system. I'm here to oppose H.B. 6439 and Governor Lamont's proposed education budget. I'm also asking you to modify the budget to align with S.B. 948, which is currently in the Education Committee.

Sadly, the disparity between the education funding when my children were in school and now that my grandchild is in school has not changed. Our children continue to feel the same educational inferiority to neighboring schools as they did 20 years ago. The unfair advantage for our children to get the education they deserve continues to grapple our society today because of the huge gap in educational dollars between our schools and that of other communities.

By providing the appropriate funds needed to give our children the education they deserve, is not just the right thing to do, it will also have an economic impact that is win-win for our children, our city and our State. When children are given the opportunity to learn and get the right education, it transcends into higher learning, which transcends into professional careers that lessens the burden of the city and state that would otherwise have to provide state assistance to these under-educated individuals.

So, I ask you to fund our schools so that our children will not grow up and become dependent on the state because they did not get the education they deserve. Fund our schools so that our children can become a viable part of society. Fund our schools so that our children can in turn become the educators that we so desperately need. It's a win-win for all.

Sonia Moncreiffe
160 Milne Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604

FaithActs for Education
857 Post Road, Suite 310
Fairfield, CT 06824